

We claim:

1. A method for protecting entry addresses, the method which comprises:

identifying a permissible entry address by using a correlation of data, wherein the data are not provided within a same individual instruction; and

storing, in a memory cell, an address of a correlated data item one of directly before and directly after the permissible entry address.

2. The method according to claim 1, which comprises storing, in the memory cell, a reference to a data entry in a protected list of legal entry addresses one of directly before and directly after the permissible entry address.

3. The method according to claim 1, which comprises directly jumping to the permissible entry address.

4. The method according to claim 1, which comprises automatically checking whether the correlation of data is satisfied for a respective entry address, when a function call is carried out.

5. A method for protecting entry addresses, the method which comprises:

identifying a permissible entry address by using a correlation of data, wherein the data are not provided within a same individual instruction; and

providing the correlation of data as a correlation with program data in non-reserved memory areas.

6. The method according to claim 5, which comprises:

providing program instructions not exceeding a given maximum number  $n$  of bytes,  $n$  being an integer number; and

providing a specific no-operation code for avoiding random correlations.

7. The method according to claim 5, which comprises providing the correlation of data as a correlation between code data items, the code data items being at least  $n$  bytes away from one another,  $n$  being an integer number.

8. The method according to claim 6, which comprises providing the correlation of data as a correlation between code data

items, the code data items being at least n bytes away from one another.

9. The method according to claim 5, which comprises:

providing a specific byte sequence which cannot occur within a regular code; and

protecting the permissible entry address by inserting the specific byte sequence.

10. The method according to claim 9, which comprises using a specific no-operation code as the specific byte sequence.

11. The method according to claim 5, which comprises jumping directly to the permissible entry address.